

Message Text

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /013 W
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P 201439Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6990

UNCLAS BUDAPEST 3261

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC (ZAGYI, PETER)

SUBJ: W/W PETER ZAGYI

REF : BUDAPEST 3205, STATE 229838

1. BOTH POSSIBILITIES STATE REFTEL PARA 2 EXPLORED WITH ZAGYI BY INTERVIEW SEP 20. EITHER POSSIBILITY IMPOSSIBLE SINCE ZAGYI PRESENTLY HAS TO HIS NAME A TOTAL OF FT 170 (\$6.85). HE HAS SPENT LOCALLY ALL PROCEEDS FROM HIS SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS, INCLUDING THOSE FROM SEP 3 CHECK. MOST OF EXPENDITURES INVOLVE CONTRIBUTION FOR HIS OWN SUPPORT TO SON WITH WHOM HE IS LIVING. SON AND FAMILY CANNOT AFFORD COST OF FATHER'S REPATRIATION, NOR DO THEY HAVE ACCESS TO HARD CURRENCY WITH WHICH TO PURCHASE TICKET.

2. EMBASSY JUDGES USG INTEREST BEST SERVED BY REPATRIATING ZAGYI ASAP. HE IS ELDERLY, DEJECTED, AND HAS IN EFFECT BEEN INVITED BY HUNGARIAN AUTHORITIES TO LEAVE PERMANENTLY, SINCE HUNGARIAN EMIGRATION PASSPORT HE HAS RECEIVED IS NOT VALID FOR RETURN HERE. HE HAS ALSO ALREADY UNDERGONE SEVERE PERSONAL STRAIN OVER LAST SEVERAL MONTHS IN MEETING VARIOUS BUREAUCRATIC REQUIREMENTS FOR HUNGARIAN PASSPORT.

3. WHILE CREDIT-WORTHINESS IS NOT A PRIMARY CONSIDERATION IN ADJUDICATING REPATRIATION LOAN APPLICATIONS, ZAGYI HAS IMPRESSED CONSUL AS SALT-OF-EARTH INDIVIDUAL WHO SERIOUSLY INTENDS TO REPAY LOAN, EVEN IF SLOWLY, AFTER
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RETURN TO U.S. AS EVIDENCE OF INTENT AND WITHOUT PROMPT-

ING, HE PROMISED TO LEAVE HIS NEXT THREE SSA CHECKS ON DEPOSIT AT EMBASSY TO REPAY LOAN. HOWEVER, EVEN IF THIS WERE POSSIBLE, WE WOULD DECLINE IN VIEW OF HIS NEED FOR FUNDS IN U.S.

4. ZAGYI HAS EXPLAINED FRIENDS IN U.S. WILL ASSIST HIM

DURING HIS TRANSITION PERIOD THERE. HOWEVER, HE CANNOT CONTACT THEM FROM HUNGARY SINCE HE DOES NOT HAVE THEIR U.S. ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS WITH HIM HERE.

5. ZAGYI GAVE CONSUL NAME OF FOLLOWING ATTORNEY, WHO HE SAID WAS HANDLING A WORKMAN'S INJURY MATTER FOR HIM. DETAILS UNCLEAR BUT ACCORDING TO ZAGYI HIS LAST CONTACT WITH ATTORNEY WAS IN FEBRUARY 1976. ATTORNEY: JOHN T. CULLINAN, ROOM 610, STRATFIELD MOTOR INN, 1241 MAIN ST., BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, TELEPHONE 334-4852.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: IF FUNDS NOT AVAILABLE FROM OR THROUGH ATTORNEY, PLEASE APPROVED \$600 REPATRIATION LOAN. MUDD

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